

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Gregor HAAB et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Application

Filed: September 16, 2003

Docket No.: 117193

For: CONNECTING DEVICE, COVER DEVICE AND DIVIDING ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

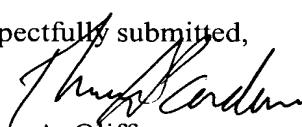
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of references 4 and 5 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The references 1-3 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 4. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 117193		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Application		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)							
		APPLICANT(S) Gregor HAAB et al.					
		FILING DATE September 16, 2003		GROUP			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1.	4,235,049	11/25/1980	MARINONI et al.			
	2.	4,524,978	6/25/1985	MAUSER			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	3.	EP 1 106 770 A1	6/13/2001	EUROPE			
	4.	EP 0 940 542 A2	9/8/1999	EUROPE			
	5.	WO 02/10544 A1	2/7/2002	WIPO			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							